

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claim 1-16 (canceled)

Claim 17 (currently amended): A method of manufacturing a piezoelectric actuator component comprising the steps of:

printing an internal electrode and a dummy electrode on a green sheet;

printing a floating electrode on a green sheet;

stacking a plurality of green sheets, each having the internal electrode and the dummy electrode printed thereon, and the green sheet on which the floating electrode is printed, to obtain a layered product in which at least one floating electrode layer is arranged in at least one of the ceramic layers between the adjacent internal electrodes in the stacking direction and/or the ceramic layers outside the outermost internal electrodes in the stacking direction, a plurality of the internal electrodes are extended to opposite first and second sides alternately in the thickness direction, and the dummy electrode is arranged between an end of the internal electrode opposite to the side extended to one of the sides and the other side to which the internal electrode is not extended;

firing the layered product to obtain a sintered ceramic compact body;

respectively forming first and second external electrodes on the first and second sides of the sintered ceramic compact body; and

applying a DC electric field between the first and second external electrodes to

polarize the sintered ceramic compact body.

Claim 18 (currently amended): A method of manufacturing a multilayer piezoelectric ~~resonator~~ component comprising the steps of:

printing an internal electrode pattern on a green sheet to obtain a first green sheet;
printing a floating electrode pattern on a green sheet to obtain a second green sheet;

stacking the first and second green sheets to obtain a layered product in which the floating electrode pattern is arranged in at least one of the green sheet layers between the adjacent internal electrode patterns in the stacking direction and/or the green sheet layers outside the outermost internal electrode patterns in the stacking direction;

firing the layered product to obtain a mother sintered ceramic compact body;
polarizing the mother sintered compact by using the internal electrode patterns of the mother sintered ceramic compact body;

cutting the mother sintered compact to obtain a sintered ceramic compact body of a piezoelectric ~~resonator-unit~~ component; and

respectively forming first and second external electrodes on opposite first and second sides of the sintered ceramic compact body so that the internal electrodes are electrically connected to one of the external electrodes, and the floating electrode is not electrically connected to the external electrodes.

Claim 19 (currently amended): A method of manufacturing a multilayer piezoelectric ~~resonator~~ component according to Claim 18, wherein the internal electrodes and floating electrode are formed to contact the first and second sides of the sintered ceramic compact body of the multilayer piezoelectric ~~resonator-unit~~ component, and the step of respectively forming the external electrodes on the first and second sides of the sintered ceramic compact body comprises the steps of forming insulating films on the first and second sides of the sintered ceramic compact body to cover exposed portions of the internal electrodes and/or the floating electrode so that the internal electrodes are electrically connected to only one of first and second external electrodes but not electrically connected to the other external electrode, and the floating electrode is not electrically connected to the external electrodes, and respectively forming the first and second external electrodes on the first and second sides of the sintered ceramic compact body after forming the insulating films.

Claim 20 (currently amended): A method of manufacturing a multilayer piezoelectric ~~resonator~~ component according to Claim 18, wherein in the step of obtaining the first green sheet, the internal electrode pattern and dummy electrode pattern are printed on the green sheet.

Claim 21 (currently amended): A method of manufacturing a multilayer piezoelectric ~~resonator~~ component according to Claim 18, wherein in the step of obtaining the second

green sheet, the floating electrode pattern and dummy electrode pattern are printed on the green sheet.

Claim 22 (currently amended): A method of manufacturing a multilayer piezoelectric ~~resonator~~ component comprising the steps of:

printing an internal electrode pattern and dummy electrode pattern on a green sheet to obtain a first green sheet;

stacking at least a plurality of the first green sheets to obtain a mother layered product;

firing the mother layered product to obtain a mother sintered ceramic compact body; polarizing the mother sintered ceramic compact body by using the internal electrode pattern;

cutting the mother sintered ceramic compact body to obtain a sintered ceramic compact body of each piezoelectric ~~resonator-unit~~ component; and

forming first and second external electrodes on opposite first and second sides of the sintered ceramic compact body so that the internal electrodes are electrically connected to at least one of the external electrodes.

Claim 23 (currently amended): A method of manufacturing a piezoelectric ~~transformer~~ component comprising the steps of:

printing an internal electrode and dummy electrode on a green sheet;

stacking a plurality of the green sheets each having the internal electrode and the dummy electrode printed thereon, to obtain a layered product having opposite third and fourth sides, in which the plurality of internal electrodes are extended to the opposite first and second sides alternately in the thickness direction, and the dummy electrodes are respectively arranged between the ends of the internal electrodes opposite to the ends extended to one of the first and second sides, and the other side to which the internal electrodes are not extended;

firing the layered product to obtain a sintered ceramic compact body;

respectively forming first and second external electrodes on portions of the first and second sides of the sintered ceramic compact body to which the internal electrodes are extended so that the external electrodes are close to the fourth side;

forming a third external electrode on the third side of the sintered ceramic compact body; and

applying a DC electric field between the first and second external electrodes and the third external electrode to polarize the sintered ceramic compact body.

Claim 24 (currently amended): A method of manufacturing a piezoelectric ~~transformer~~ component comprising the steps of:

printing an internal electrode and dummy electrode on a green sheet;

printing a floating electrode on a green sheet;

stacking a plurality of the green sheets each having the internal electrode and the

dummy electrode printed thereon, and the green sheet on which the floating electrode is printed, to obtain a layered product having opposite third and fourth sides, in which at least one floating electrode layer is arranged in at least one of the ceramic layers between the adjacent internal electrodes in the stacking direction and/or the ceramic layers outside the outermost internal electrodes in the stacking direction, the plurality of internal electrodes are extended to the opposite first and second sides alternately in the thickness direction, and the dummy electrodes are respectively arranged between the ends of the internal electrodes opposite to the ends extended to one of the sides, and the other side to which the internal electrodes are not extended;

firing the layered product to obtain a sintered ceramic compact body;

respectively forming first and second external electrodes on portions of the first and second sides of the sintered ceramic compact body to which the internal electrodes are led so that the external electrodes are close to the fourth side;

forming a third external electrode on the third side of the sintered ceramic compact body; and

applying a DC electric field between the first and second external electrodes to polarize the sintered ceramic compact body; and

applying a DC electric field between the first and second external electrodes and the third external electrode to polarize the sintered ceramic compact body.

Claim 25 (canceled).

Claim 26 (new): The method according to Claim 17, wherein the piezoelectric component is a piezoelectric actuator.

Claim 27 (new): The method according to Claim 18, wherein the piezoelectric component is a piezoelectric resonator.

Claim 28 (new): The method according to Claim 22, wherein the piezoelectric component is a piezoelectric resonator.

Claim 29 (new): The method according to Claim 23, wherein the piezoelectric component is a piezoelectric transformer.

Claim 30 (new): The method according to Claim 24, wherein the piezoelectric component is a piezoelectric transformer.